

From: [Carmen Assunto](#) on behalf of R6ASK@epa.gov
Subject: Daily News Digest - Monday May 6
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Attachments: [R6 Daily News Digest 05-06-13.pdf](#)

(See attached file: R6 Daily News Digest 05-06-13.pdf)

1 - From Washington to West, system failed to protect Texas town from tragedy, DMN, 5/5/13
<http://www.dallasnews.com/news/west-explosion/headlines/20130504-from-washington-to-west-system-failed-to-protect-texas-town-from-tragedy.ece>

Disaster prevention at the West Fertilizer Co. was everyone's job. In the end, it didn't get done. On paper, a seamless system combined federal oversight, state coordination, local knowledge and company initiative to keep people safe.

2 - Many Texas plants lack safety inspections despite risks, data shows, DMN, 5/5/13
<http://www.dallasnews.com/news/west-explosion/headlines/20130504-many-texas-plants-lack-safety-inspections-despite-risks-data-shows.ece>

Twenty-two percent of plants in Texas that regulators say pose a risk of explosion or toxic release have never have been inspected for emergency preparedness, federal data shows. Another 10 percent were inspected, but not by federal, state or even local governments. Instead, those facilities reported inspections by their own contractors, insurance companies or employees, according to an analysis of the data by The Dallas Morning News.

3 - Reluctant to leave home, BRADV, 5/6/13
<http://theadvocate.com/home/5884362-125/reluctant-to-leave-home>

Rhett and Donna Pipsair have spent the last 23 years making their home on Sauce Piquante Lane just the way they want it.

4 - Tremors at Assumption sinkhole halt some work, KNOE, 5/5/13
<http://www.knoe.com/story/22164762/tremors-at-assumption-sinkhole-halt-some-work>

Assumption Parish officials say a moderate increase in tremors at the 15-acre sinkhole near Bayou Corne has prevented some work there since Wednesday.

5 - Sinkholes: The hole truth, CBS, 5/5/13
http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-3445_162-57582888/sinkholes-the-hole-truth/

(CBS News) We can't claim to have the "whole truth and nothing but" . . . but there is a growing body of research into those headline-making sinkholes that can turn an abode into an abyss in the twinkling of an eye. Our Cover Story is reported now by Mark Strassmann:

6 - Lightning investigated as cause of oil tank explosions in Louisiana, Examiner, 5/4/13
<http://www.examiner.com/article/lightning-investigated-as-cause-of-oil-tank-explosions-louisiana>

Lightning is being investigated as a potential cause of a series of two oil tank explosions, that forced the evacuation of more than two dozen homes in Louisiana Thursday night

7 - Oil tank fire near Denham Springs spreads to second tank, crews plan to inject foam, NOLA, 5/3/13
http://www.nola.com/traffic/baton-rouge/index.ssf/2013/05/oil_tank_fire_near_denham_spri.html#incart_river

An oil tank fire near Denham Springs was still burning and had spread to a second tank Friday afternoon, hours after an explosion Thursday night. Residents in the area, who were evacuated late Thursday night, were still unable to return to their homes No injuries were reported.

8 - Judges Appear To Back EPA Basis For Strict Sludge Incinerator Air Rule, Inside EPA, 5/3/13
<http://insideepa.com/201305032433369/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/judges-appear-to-back-epa-basis-for-strict-sludge-incinerator-air-rule/menu-id-95.html>

Appellate judges at oral arguments hinted that they could support EPA's claim that it was right to regulate sewage sludge incinerators (SSIs) with a strict Clean Air Act maximum achievable control technology (MACT) standard, which could doom the wastewater treatment facility sector's suit claiming that the air rule is unnecessarily stringent.

9 - Army Elevates Perchlorate Standards Dispute At Texas Site To EPA Chief , Inside EPA, 5/6/13
<http://insideepa.com/201305062433419/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/army-elevates-perchlorate-standards-dispute-at-texas-site-to-epa-chief/menu-id-95.html>

The Army is elevating a dispute with EPA over perchlorate cleanup levels to the agency's acting administrator, after having failed to reach agreement at the regional level on the appropriate cleanup level for a Texas site in the absence of federal drinking water standards.

10 - Water Agencies Tell Court EPA Promulgated Incinerator Rule Under Wrong Section of Law, BNA, 5/6/13

[http://esweb.bna.com/eslw/1245/split_display.adp?
fedfid=30912099&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0d8e0t8n2&split=0](http://esweb.bna.com/eslw/1245/split_display.adp?fedfid=30912099&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0d8e0t8n2&split=0)

Municipal water agencies told a federal appeals court May 3 that the Environmental Protection Agency issued air pollution limits for sewage sludge incinerators under the wrong section of the Clean Air Act (National Ass'n of Clean Water Agencies v. EPA, D.C. Cir., No. 11-1131, oral arguments 5/3/13).

11 - McCarthy vote set, but Republicans still unhappy , EENEWS, 5/6/13

<http://www.eenews.net/EEDaily/2013/05/06/2>

Days before a vote on President Obama's nominee to head U.S. EPA, Republicans on the Environment and Public Works Committee say they still have questions about the agency's approach to transparency.

12 - Acting administrator to discuss spending plan with House appropriators , EENEWS, 5/6/13

<http://www.eenews.net/EEDaily/2013/05/06/12>

U.S. EPA acting Administrator Bob Perciasepe will face House appropriators Wednesday to discuss his agency's \$8.2 billion fiscal 2014 budget request.